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Fifty-second session
Agenda items 20, 38, 40, 43, 64, 81, 89, 95, 97, 98, 99, 103, 104 and 152
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE
SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES
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CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 14 July 1998 from the representatives of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of the Declaration signed in duplicate in Turkish and Russian on 9 June 1998 in the city of Astana, Kazakhstan, by the leaders of the Azerbaijan Republic, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Turkey, Turkmenistan and the

Republic of Uzbekistan at the Fifth Summit Meeting, and the Joint Statement (see annexes).

We should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 20, 38, 40, 43, 64, 81, 89, 95, 97, 98, 99, 103, 104 and 152, and of the Security Council.

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Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Azerbaijan Republic to
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Zamira B. ESHMAMBETOVA
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
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Volkan VURAL
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of the Republic of Turkey to
the United Nations

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Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Uzbekistan to
the United Nations

Annex I

[Original: Russian]

Declaration of the Fifth Summit of Turkish-speaking States

Astana

Mr. Heydar Aliev, President of the Azerbaijan Republic, Mr. Nursultan Nazarbaev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Askar Akaev, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Sahat Muradov, Chairman of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan, and Mr. Islam Karimov, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan held their fifth summit meeting on 9 June 1998 in Astana.

The Heads of State,

On the basis of the commonality of the historical development of their culture, language and traditions,

Striving for the further intensification of all-round, constructive and fruitful development of the links between their countries on the basis of the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of frontiers, equal rights, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, the performance in good faith of obligations stemming from the universally accepted norms of international law, and the renunciation of the use or threat of force, and of economic or other means of exerting pressure,

Confirming their commitment to the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, and in compliance with the obligations entered into in the framework of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

Confirming the continuity of the Ankara statement and the Istanbul, Bishkek and Tashkent declarations,

Expressing satisfaction at the dynamic and progressive development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the Turkish-speaking States in various fields over the past six years since the signing of the Ankara statement,

Having considered the state of relations and the prospects for the development of cooperation among their countries, and having exchanged views on a number of international and regional problems,

Declare:

1. The Heads of State expressed satisfaction with the development of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation among their countries in various fields and noted the need for the further expansion and intensification of such

cooperation on the basis of the development and implementation of specific projects for the well-being and prosperity of their peoples.

2. The Heads of State approved the Statute of the Secretariat of the Meetings of Heads of State of the Turkish-Speaking Countries (SMHTC) and assigned control over the activities of the Secretariat to the foreign policy bodies.

3. Bearing in mind that the Fifth Meeting coincided with the presentation of the new capital of the sovereign State of Kazakhstan, the Heads of State confirmed their support for the transformations taking place in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

4. Noting the importance of joint implementation of the "Restoration of the Silk Route" programme, the Heads of State acknowledged that the implementation of the programme would play an important role in the economy of the region and would strengthen mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

5. The Heads of State affirmed the importance and necessity of expanding and intensifying economic ties in the fields of trade, investment, industrial cooperation and promotion of economic integration processes.

6. The Heads of State again emphasized the special importance of developing and extracting the rich natural resources of their countries, in the first instance natural gas, petroleum and hydro-energy resources, and called for urgent measures to conduct joint projects for laying pipelines and electricity transmission lines to deliver energy to world markets, with the involvement in these projects of the States concerned, international financial institutions and State and private structures.

The Heads of State noted with satisfaction the work performed by the relevant States and international organizations in connection with the laying of oil and gas pipelines through Turkey to the shores of the Mediterranean and in Europe.

7. The Heads of State welcomed and expressed appreciation of the initiative of the President of the Azerbaijan Republic to hold an international conference in the city of Baku to develop the Europe-Caucasus-Asia Transport Corridor and the adoption of new standard multilateral agreements on transport to promote the development of alternative transport networks.

8. The Heads of State recognized that it is essential to give an impetus to scientific and technological cooperation and to improve the existing transport and communications infrastructure linking the countries of the region, and were in favour of the exchange of relevant experiences and appropriate technologies in those fields.

9. In order to further develop the processes of integration, the Heads of State called for encouragement for the creation of consortia in the fields of industry, agriculture, and transport and communications.

10. The Heads of State noted the urgency of developing cooperation in the field of environmental protection, and called for the adoption of urgent measures on an international scale to stabilize the environmental situation in the region of the participating countries.

11. The Heads of State expressed their support for the efforts of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to stimulate and broaden the processes of integration in the region.

12. In order to disseminate experience, information and a popular appreciation of the cultural and historical heritage of the Turkish peoples, the Heads of State called for the further development of exchanges of information and cooperation between the mass media of the Turkish-speaking States and non-governmental organizations.

13. The Heads of State emphasized the importance of the efforts being undertaken by the States of Central Asia to overhaul the education system, and called for international support for those reforms and for encouragement to be given to the exchange of experience in that area.

14. The Heads of State emphasized the importance of the initiative of Kazakhstan to convene a meeting on cooperation and confidence-building measures in Asia.

15. Expressing their approval of the efforts of the international community and of interested countries to establish stability in the region, the Heads of State supported the process aimed at bringing about a peaceful settlement in Tajikistan.

The Heads of State again called for the opposing sides in Afghanistan to step up their efforts to settle the conflict with the participation of interested States under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

The Heads of State noted that the failure to settle the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan was hampering the economic development of those countries and the improvement in the well-being of their peoples and, on humanitarian grounds, emphasized the importance of a peaceful settlement of the conflict on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the three principles of the Lisbon Summit of OSCE.

16. Expressing concern at the scale and rising trend of the illegal production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and also at the possibility of the territory of the participating States being used for their unlawful transit, the Heads of State confirmed their readiness to take coordinated action to combat the drug trade, and also to cooperate with the efforts of the international community, in particular the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

17. The Heads of State again emphasized the need for international cooperation to combat terrorism, religious extremism and separatism, which recognized no frontiers between States.

18. The Heads of State once more emphasized their adherence to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and expressed and supported the idea that the Turkish-speaking States are a vital and active part of the world community, and are ready for mutually beneficial and fruitful cooperation with all other countries in the interests of peace, security and progress.

19. The Heads of State emphasized that the Fifth Meeting, which had taken place in a frank and friendly atmosphere in Astana, will undoubtedly become an important milestone in the further development of cooperation between the Turkish-speaking States, and also in ensuring stability and peace in the region.

The Heads of State agreed to hold the next meeting in Baku.

Done at Astana on 9 June 1998 in six copies, each in the Turkish and Russian languages.

The President of the Azerbaijan Republic	Heydar Aliyev
The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Nursultan Nazarbaev
The President of the Kyrgyz Republic	Askar Akayev
The President of the Republic of Turkey	Süleyman Demirel
The Chairman of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan	Sahat Muradov
The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan	Islam Karimov

Annex II

[Original: Russian]

Joint statement by the participants in the Fifth Summit of Turkish-Speaking States

We, the leaders of the Turkish-speaking States participating in the Fifth Summit in Astana, capital of the Republic of Kazakhstan, have expressed deep concern at the nuclear weapons tests that have been conducted in India and Pakistan. These tests seriously undermine regional and global stability and security, are conducive to the escalation of the nuclear arms race and are contrary to the policy of our States to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

We call on India and Pakistan to exercise restraint and responsibility, to conduct no further nuclear tests and to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

Astana, 9 June 1998